

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In word recognition using the character recognition result, recognition processing is performed for an input character string that corresponds to a word to be recognized, a probability at which characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition are generated by conditioning characters of words contained in a word dictionary that stores in advance candidates of words to be recognized. The thus obtained probability is divided by a probability at which characteristics obtained as the result of character recognition are generated, and each of the division results obtained relevant to the characters of the words contained in the word dictionary is multiplied relevant to all the characters. The recognition results of the above words are obtained based on the multiplication results.

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